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TO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE 4243
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1608
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RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0995
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SUBJECT: CONGRATULATORY LETTER FROM SRAP HOLBROOKE TO NEW
UAE AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN ENVOY SHAMSI

¶1. Please deliver the following message from Special Representative Holbrooke to Ambassador Shamsi. Signed original will follow. Original copies will be sent to German Special Representative Muetzelburg and Italian Special Representative Ianucci.

¶2. Begin Text:

Dear Ambassador Shamsi:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Special Representative of the United Arab Emirates for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The UAE has played a key role advancing our shared goal of bringing security and stability to Afghanistan and Pakistan. The decision to appoint you as Special Representative demonstrates your government's commitment to working with the international community on this critically important undertaking.

The purpose of the Afghanistan Pakistan Support Group, as this group of Special Representatives is known, is to bring about solutions to the root causes of destabilization in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Special Representatives all are empowered by their governments to direct policy towards this end, a crucial element of the group's purpose and efficacy. We first met in Munich on April 1, where we cleared the way for the creation of the European Gendarme Force Afghanistan training initiative. During the Pakistan Donors Conference in Tokyo, we identified a strategy for maximizing the potential of the \$5 billion in donor pledges. On May 18 in Istanbul, we set in motion development of a comprehensive inventory and monitoring process for assistance activities in Afghanistan, starting with agriculture. Our next meeting will be in Trieste, Italy, on June 26; we are also discussing holding a meeting in Kabul.

I encourage you to contact German Special Representative Bernd Muetzelburg, the chair and convening authority of the Afghanistan Pakistan Support Group, as soon as possible. Congratulations once again, and I look forward to working with you in the coming months on this top priority. If you can visit Washington, I would look forward to welcoming you.

Please give my regards to Foreign Minister Abdullah.

Sincerely,

Richard Holbrooke
Special Representative for
Afghanistan and Pakistan
CLINTON